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REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

July 1, 2015

Marlene H. Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20554

ATTENTION: WIRELINE COMPETION BUREAU

RE: Form 481 ETC filing pursuant to Sections 54.313 and 54.422 SAC 361495, MN, Valley Telephone Company Connect America Fund WC Dockets 10-90, 11-42 and 14-58

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Pursuant to Sections 54.313 and 54.422 of Commission's Rules, Valley Telephone Company, MN, SAC 361495 is filing its Form 481 High Cost and Low-Income Annual Report.

Valley Telephone Company seeks confidential treatment under the Protective Order in this proceeding for Section 54.313(f)(2) financial information in the 481 filing ¹ and for Section 54.202(a) 5 Year Service Quality Improvement Plan annual progress report and service area progress mapping information required as part of the 481 filing pursuant to the Request for Confidential Treatment attached to this filing. Pursuant to the Protective Order, one copy of the confidential document and two copies of the redacted version are provided. The Redacted version is also being filed on the Electronic Comment Filing System.

Please address any correspondence regarding this transmittal to the attention of Tom Campbell at the following address, e-mail or telephone number.

Sincerely,

Tom Campbell

Telecommunications Consultant

tcampbell@otcpas.com

651-621-8511 (v)

651-483-2467 (f)

Enclosures

CC: Mr. Charles Tyler, FCC Telecommunications Access Policy Division (two copies confidential)

¹ See Protective Order 27, WC Docket Nos. 10-90 et al, Rec 14231 rel. November 16 ("Order")

Before the FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of)	
)	
Connect America Fund)	WC Docket No. 10-90
)	
Lifeline and Link Up Reform)	WC Docket No. 11-42
-)	
ETC Annual Reports and Certifications)	WC Docket No. 14-58

REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT

Valley Telephone Company, SAC 361495, ("the company") requests that the portion of its Form 481 pertaining to the 5-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan Progress Report and Service Exchange Mapping data be granted confidential, non-public treatment pursuant to Sections 0.457 and 0.459 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.457, 0.459, and related provisions of the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"), including 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(4) ("Exemption 4"). Form 481 contains information regarding the company's Section 54.202(a) 5- Year Service Quality Improvement Plan including capital expenditures and operating expenses. Release of such information would supply a roadmap to competitors regarding confidential build out plans and study area demographics. In addition, the document contains confidential information that is not customarily disclosed to the public or made available within the telecommunications industry. Information in support of the company's request for confidential treatment pursuant to Section 0.459(b) of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 0.459(b), is provided below.

I. VALLEY TELEPHONE COMPANY'S FORM 481 SATISFIES THE REQUIREMENTS OF § 0.459 OF THE COMMISSION'S RULES

The material for which the company seeks confidentiality falls squarely within the requirements of Section 0.459 of the Commission's rules. As demonstrated below, the company has satisfied each of the elements of Section 0.459, and disclosure of this information would result in competitive harm to the company.

- (1) Identification of the specific information for which confidential treatment is sought. The company requests confidential treatment for the portion of Form 481 required by 47 C.F.R. § 54.313 related to the Section 54.202(a) 5- Year Service Quality Improvement Plan. The information bears the legend "Confidential Financial Information. The specific information falls into the categories of: 1. Capital Expenditures, 2. Operating Expenses and 3. Area Demographics
- (2) Identification of the Commission proceeding in which the information was submitted or a description of the circumstances giving rise to the submission. The information is required to be produced annually by 47 C.F.R. § 54.313. The proceedings are WC Docket No. 10-90 and WC Docket No. 11-42. The documents will also be submitted in WC Docket NO. 14-58
- (3) Explanation of the degree to which the information is commercial or financial, or contains a trade secret or is privileged. The information for which confidentiality is requested is "financial" and commercial in nature. The information is "confidential" in that it "would customarily not be released to the public." The courts have elaborated that material "is 'confidential' . . . if disclosure of the information is likely to have either the following effects: (1) to impair the government's ability to obtain necessary information in the future; or (2) to cause substantial harm to the competitive position of the person from whom the information was obtained." Both of the considerations apply in this instance, as further explained in point (5) below.
- (4) Explanation of the degree to which the information concerns a service that is subject to competition. All of the services provided by the company are subject to intense existing or potential competition.

¹ See Board of Trade of the City of Chicago v. Commodity Futures Trading Comm'n, 627 F.2d 392, 403 & n.78 (D.C. Cir. 1980) (courts have given the terms "commercial" and "financial, as used in Section 552(b)(4), their ordinary meanings).

² Critical Mass Energy Project v. NRC, 975 F.2d 871, 873 (D.C. Cir. 1992) (citing the Senate Committee Report).

³Nat'l Parks and Conservation Ass'n v. Morton, 498 f.2d 764, 770 (D.C. Cir. 1974) (footnote omitted); see also Critical Mass Energy, 975 F.2d at 873.

- (5) Explanation of how disclosure of the information could result in substantial competitive harm. If the information were publicly available, it would supply competitors with financial information not ordinarily available to the public. Specifically, rural telephone service has historically lent itself to "cherry picking" by competitors that choose to only serve low cost areas. Release of this specific build out and operating expense information would allow competitors to gain an unfair advantage.
- (6) Identification of any measures taken by the submitting party to prevent unauthorized disclosure. The information for which the company seeks confidential treatment is information that the company does not customarily release to the public. The company also limits the internal circulation of this information to only those with a need to know.

Consistent with 47 C.F.R. § 0.459(a), the items for which confidentiality is requested are being submitted with, and are covered by, this request. This request for confidentiality - as well as the documents subject to this request - are being filed in hard copy and/or electronic copy.

- (7) Identification of whether the information is available to the public and the extent of any previous disclosure of the information to third parties. The documents and information for which confidentiality is sought are not made available to the public and have not been disclosed to third parties, except to those entities identified in 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(i). For those disclosures, the company has requested confidential treatment by the entities for the same information.
- (8) Justification of the period during which the submitting party asserts that material should not be available for public disclosure. Given the sensitive nature of the information for which confidentiality is requested, the prospect of serious competitive harm, the company requests that confidential treatment apply indefinitely.

II. CONCLUSION

For these reasons, pursuant to Sections 0.457 and 0.459 of the Commission's Rules, the company requests that the portion of Form 481 relating to the Section 54.202(a) 5 - Year Service Quality Improvement Plan be treated as confidential under the Commission's rules and precedent and withheld in their entirety from public inspection, and that any distribution of them within the Commission should be limited to a "need to know" basis. In the event that any person or entity requests access to the documents or seeks to make any or all of them part of the public record, the company requests to be notified immediately so that it can oppose such request or take other action as necessary to safeguard its interests and the interests of consumers.

Sincerely,

Tom Campbell

Telecommunications Consultant

uno W Aughell

tcampbell@otcpas.com

651-621-8511 (v)

651-483-2467 (f)

FCC For	REDACTED - rm 481 - Carrier Annual Reporting Data Collection Form	FOR PUBL	Ċ	CC Form 481 DMB Control No. 3060-0 uly 2013	986/OMB Control N	lo. 3060-0819
<010>	Study Area Code	361495				
<015>	Study Area Name	VALLEY TEL CO - MN	1			
<020>	Program Year	2016				
<030>	Contact Name: Person USAC should contact with questions about this data	Tom Campbell				
<035>	Contact Telephone Number: Number of the person identified in data line <030>	6516218511 ext.				
<039>	Contact Email Address: Email of the person identified in data line <030>	tcampbell@otcpas.c	com			
	·				54.313	54.422
ANNUA	AL REPORTING FOR ALL CARRIERS				Completion Required (check box whe	Required
<100>	Service Quality Improvement Reporting		(complete attached works	heet)	√	
<200>	Outage Reporting (voice)		(complete attached works	heet)	✓	✓
<210>		outages to report			✓	
<300>	Unfulfilled Service Requests (voice)			1 .		
<310>	Detail on Attempts (voice)					
				(attach descriptive doc	ument)	
-220-	Unfulfilled Service Requests (broadband)	<u> </u>			√	
<320>	Unfulfilled Service Requests (broadband) 0			7 r		
<330>	Detail on Attempts (broadband)			(attach descriptive do	ocument)	
<400>	Number of Complaints per 1,000 customers (voice)					
<410>	Fixed 0.0				✓	√
<420>	Mobile 0.0 Number of Complaints per 1,000 customers (broadl	and)				
<440>	Fixed 0.0	Januj			✓	
<450> <500>	Mobile 0.0 Service Quality Standards & Consumer Protection R	ules Compliance	(check to indicate certific	cation)	✓	✓
	361495mn510.pdf		7			
<510>			(attached descriptive o	document)	✓	✓
<600>	Functionality in Emergency Situations		(check to indicate certific	cation)	✓	√
	361495mn610.pdf					
			(attached descriptive docu	ument)	✓	✓
<610>						
<700>	Company Price Offerings (voice)		(complete attached work	sheet)	✓	
<710>	Company Price Offerings (broadband)		(complete attached work	sheet)		
	Operating Companies and Affiliates Tribal Land Offerings (Y/N)?		(complete attached work if yes, complete attached work	Г	<u> </u>	111111
	Voice Services Rate Comparability Certification	г	Yes	sneet/	√	
	361495mn1010.pdf					
<1010	>		(attach descriptive docu	ment)	✓	
<1100	Certify whether terrestrial backhaul options exist (\	res or No)	(if not, check to indicate	e certification)	√	
<1110>			(complete attached worl	ksheet)	√	
<1200>	Terms and Condition for Lifeline Customers		(complete attached worl	ksheet)		✓
	Price Cap Carriers, Proceed to Price Cap Additional					
<2000>	Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Pr	ice Cap Local Exchang	ge Carriers (check to indicate certific	ation)		
<2005>			(complete attached work			
<3000>	Rate of Return Carriers, Proceed to ROR Additional	Documentation Wor	ksheet (check to indicate certific	ation)		
<3005>			(complete attached work		· /	

(100) Se	(100) Service Quality Improvement Reporting	FCC Form 481
Data Co	Data Collection Form	OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
<010>	Study Area Code	361495
<015>	Study Area Name	VALLEY TEL CO - MN
<020>	Program Year	2016
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Tom Campbell
<032>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	6516218511 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	tcampbell@otcpas.com
<110>	Has your company received its ETC certification from the FCC?	(yes / no)
<111>>	If your answer to Line <110> is yes, do you have an existing $\$54.202(a)$ "5 year plan" filed with the FCC?	O O (ou/sak)
	If your answer to Line <11.1> is yes, then you are required to file a progress report, on line <11.2> delineating the status of your company's existing § 54.202(a) "5 year lan" on file with the FCC, as it relates to your provision of	
<112>	voice telepriony service. Attach Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan or, in subsequent years, your annual progress report filed pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(1). If your company is a CETC which only receives frozen support, your progress report is only required to address voice telephony service.	361495mn112.docx, 361495mn112.pdf
	Please select the appropriate responses below (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 112, contains a progress report on its five-year service quality improvement plan pursuant to §54.202(a). The information shall be	Name of Attached Document
7,77	submitted at tile wire cellter lever of cellsus block as appropriate. Mans datailing prograss towards maating plan targets	Vac
<114>	maps detailing progress cowards meeting plan targets Report how much universal service (USF) support was received	S A
<115>	How much (USF) was used to improve service quality and how support was used to improve service quality	
<116>	How much (USF) was used to improve service coverage and how support was used to improve service coverage	
<1118>	How much (USF) was used to improve service capacity and now support was used to improve service capacity. Provide an explanation of network improvement targets not met in the prior calendar year.	e service capacity Yes Yes

	Data Collection Form								OIM VIUL	OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013	J986/ OIMB Control N	0. 3060-0819
<010>	Study Area Code	de				361495						
<015> S	Study Area Name	me				VALLEY TEL	CO - MIN					
<020>	Program Year					2016						
<030>	Contact Name	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	should contac	t regarding this	data	Tom Campbell	1.					
<032>	Contact Telepi	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	Number of pe	rson identified	in data line <0.	30> 6516218511 ext.	ext.					
	Sontact Email	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line	Address of pe	rson identified	in data line <0	<030> tcampbell@otcpas.com	tcpas.com					
7000	/	, ,	(, ,	\ \ \	7	/6/	/	/ 0	+	(4
	NORS Reference Number	Outage Start Date	Outage Start Outage Start Date Time	o	Outage End Time	Number of Customers Affected	Ď	911 Facilities Affected	Service Outage Description (Check	Did This Outage Affect Multiple Study Areas	Service Outage	Preventative
							Customers	(Yes / No)	all that apply)	(Yes / No)	Resolution	Procedures
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3 Control No. 3060-0819								< >>	Total per line Rates and Fees												
FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013								 	Mandatory Extended Area Service Charge												
P.O. Du								 b4>	State Universal Service Fee												
		CO - MN		1	ext.	tcpas.com		 	State Subscriber Line Charge					See attached worksheet							
	361495	VALLEY TEL CO	2016	Tom Campbell	.030> 6516218511 ext.	:030> tcampbell@otcpas.com	1/1/2015	 	Residential Local Service Rate					See at							
				ling this data	entified in data line <	entified in data line <	1/1,	 	Rate Type												
ata				contact regard	r of person ide	ss of person ide	ctive Date ervice Charge	<a3></a3>	SAC (CETC)												
(700) Price Offerings including Voice Rate Data Data Collection Form	de	ıme		Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date Single State-wide Residential Local Service Charge	<a2></a2>	Exchange (ILEC)												
(700) Price Offerings in Data Collection Form	Study Area Code	Study Area Name	Program Year	Contact Name	Contact Telep	Contact Email	Residential Lo Single State-w	<a1></a1>	State												
(700) Pric Data Colle	<010>	<015>	<020>	<030>	<032>	<039>	<701>	<703>													

119																				
FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013							<d4>></d4>	Usage Allowance Action Taken When Limit Reached { <i>select</i> }												
181 rol No. 3060-0986/C							<d3></d3>	Usage Allowance (GB)												
FCC Form 481 OMB Control July 2013							<d2></d2>	Broadband Service - Upload Speed (Mbps)												
							<d1></d1>	Broadband Service - Download Speed (Mbps)												
		- MN				as.com	<>>>	Total Rate and Fees				ped	5							
	361495	VALLEY TEL CO -	2016	Tom Campbell	6516218511 ext.	tcampbell@otcpas.com	<	State Regulated Fees				- See attached	tophoot.	MOINSHEEL -						
				s data	l in data line <030>	d in data line <030>	 	Residential Rate				•	•							
				Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	<a2></a2>	Exchange (ILEC)												
(710) Broadband Price Offerings Data Collection Form	Study Area Code						<a1></a1>	State												
(710) Bro Data Coll	<010>	<015>	<020>	<030>	<032>	<039>	<711>													

	-			
(800) O _F Data Col	(800) Operating Companies Data Collection Form			FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
<010>	Study Area Code	361495		
<015>	Study Area Name	VALLEY TEL CO	- MN	
<020>	Program Year			
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Tom Campbell		
<032>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	6516218511 ext.		
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	tcampbell@otcpas.com	pas.com	
<810>	Reporting Carrier Valley Tel Co - MN			
<811>				
<812>	Operating Company			
<813>	<a1></a1>		<a2></a2>	<a3></a3>
	Affiliates		SAC	Doing Business As Company or Brand Designation
		000	Soc attached workshoot	100
		סכם מוופ	MOING WOLLD	

(900) Tr Data Co	(900) Tribal Lands Reporting Data Collection Form		FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
<010>	Study Area Code	361495	
<015>	Study Area Name	VALLEY TEL CO -	MN
<020>		2016	
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Tom Campbell	
<032>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	0> 6516218511 ext.	
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	<pre>\$0> tcampbell@otcpas.com</pre>	.Scom
<910>	Tribal Land(s) on which ETC Serves	Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate	
<920>	Tribal Government Engagement Obligation	361495mn920.pdf	
	J		Name of Attached Document
If your	If your company serves Tribal lands, please select (Yes,No, NA) for each these boxes		
to coni demon	to confirm the status described on the attached document(s), on line 920, demonstrates coordination with the Tribal government pursuant to	Select	
§ 54.31	§ 54.313(a)(9) includes:	Yes or No or Not Applicable	
<921>	Needs assessment and deployment planning with a focus on Tribal community anchor institutions.	Yes	
<922>	Feasibility and sustainability planning;	Yes	
<923>	Marketing services in a culturally sensitive manner;	Yes	
<924>	Compliance with Rights of way processes	Yes	
<925>		Yes	
<926>	Compliance with Facilities Siting rules	Yes	
<927>	Compliance with Environmental Review processes	Yes	
<928>		Yes	
<929>	Compliance with Tribal Business and Licensing requirements.	Yes	

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Data Co	(1100) NO Terrestrial backnaul Reporting Data Collection Form	PCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
<010>	Study Area Code	361495
<015>		VALLEY TEL CO - MN
<020>	Program Year	2016
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Tom Campbell
<032>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	6516218511 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	tcampbell@otcpas.com
<1120>	Please confirm whether terrestrial backhaul options exist within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(g) (Yes, No).	
<1130>	Please select the appropriate response (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to confirm the reporting carrier offers broadband service of at least 1 Mbps downstream and 256 kbps upstream within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(g).	kps sqdx

(1200) T	(1200) Terms and Condition for Lifeline Customers	FCC Form 481
Lifeline Data Col	Lifeline Data Collection Form	OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
<010>	Study Area Code	361495
<015>	Study Area Name	VALLEY TEL CO - MN
<020>	Program Year	2016
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Tom Campbell
<032>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	6516218511 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	> tcampbell@otcpas.com
		361495mm1210.pdf
<1210>	· Terms & Conditions of Voice Telephony Lifeline Plans	
		Name of Attached Document
<1220>	Link to Duhlir Wehcite	
		http://www.prtel.com/telephone/25/assistance-programs
"Please check th or the website li § 54.422(a)(2) a annually report:	"Please check these boxes below to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 1210, or the website listed, on line 1220, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.422(a)(2) annual reporting for ETCs receiving low-income support, carriers must annually report:	
<1221>	Information describing the terms and conditions of any voice Lifeline subscribers,	
<1222>	Details on the number of minutes provided as part of the plan,	
<1223>	Additional charges for toll calls, and rates for each such plan.	

(2000) Pric	(2000) Price Cap Carrier Additional Documentation	FCC Form 481
Data Collection Form	ction Form	OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
Including R	Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers	July 2013
<010>	Study Area Code	
<015>	Study Area Name	351495
<020>	Program Year	VALLEY TEL CO - MIN
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	2016
<032>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	bilbilbil ext.
		CcalipDe±±@CCCpas.coll
Select the Connect A	Select the appropriate responses below (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to note compliance as a recipient of Incremental Connect America Phase I support, frozen High Cost s Connect America Phase II support as set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(b),(c),(d),(e). The information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.	Select the appropriate responses below (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to note compliance as a recipient of Incremental Connect America Phase I support, frozen High Cost support, High Cost support to offset access charge reductions, and Connect America Phase II support as set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(b),(c),(d),(e). The information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.
<2010>	Incremental Connect America Phase I reporting 2nd Year Certification {47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1)ii} 3rd Year Certification {47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1)ii}	
<2011b>	Attachment {47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1)ii}	
		Name of Attached Document(s) Listing Required Information
	Price Cap Carrier Receiving Frozen Support Certification (47 CFR § 54.312(a))	
<2012>	2013 Frozen Support Calculation {47 CFR § 54.313(c)(1)}	
<2013> <2014>	2014 Frozen Support Calculation $\{47$ CFR \S 54.313(C)(2) $\}$ 2015 Frozen Support Calculation $\{47$ CFR \S 54.313(C)(3) $\}$	
<2015>	2016 and future Frozen Support Calculation {47 CFR § 54.313(c)(4)}	
<2016>	Price Cap Carrier Connect America ICC Support {47 CFR § 54.313(d)} Certification Support Used to Build Broadband	
<2017>	Connect America Phase II Reporting (47 CFR § 54.313(e))	
<2018>	sta year Broadband Service Certification 5th year Broadband Service Certification Interim Progress Certification	
<2020>	Please check the box to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 2021, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313 (e)(3)(ii), as a recipient of CAF Phase II support shall provide the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year.	2021, contains the required information provide the number, names, and cess to broadband service in the
<2021>	Interim Progress Community Anchor Institutions	
		Name of Attached Document(s) Listing Required Information

Data Col	Data Collection Form	OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
<010>		
<015>	Study Area Name Program Year	VALLEY TEL CO - MN
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Tom Campbell
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	6516218511 ext. tcampbell@otcpas.com
CHECK 1	CHECK the boxes below to note compliance on its five year service quality plan (pursuan CFR 6 FA 313f6/2) 1 further conflix that the	ve year service quality plan (pursuant to 47 CFR § 54.202(a)) and, for privately held carriers, ensuring compliance with the financial reporting requirements set forth in 47 is 4.314f(12) I further certify that the information centrated on this form and in the documents attached halow is accurate
		361495mn3010.pdf
(3010)	Progress Report on 5 Year Plan Milestone Certification $\{47\ \text{CFR}\ \S\ 54.313(f)(1)(i)\}$	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information
(3011)	Please check this box to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 3012 contains the required information pursuant to \$ 54.313 (f)(1)(ii), the carrier shall provide the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year.	012 contains the required information pursuant to sesses of community anchor institutions to which began
		361495mn1210 .pdf
(3012)	Community Anchor Institutions {47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(i)}	
(3013)	Is your company a Privately Held ROR Carrier (47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2)} If yes, does your company file the RUS annual report	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information (Yes/No) (Yes/No) (Yes/No)
Please (3015) (3016)	r check these boxes to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 3017, contain Electronic copy of their annual RUS reports (Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers) Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows	Please check these boxes to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 3017, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2) compliance requires: (3015) Electronic copy of their annual RUS reports (Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers) (3016) Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows
(3017)	If the response is yes on line 3014, attach your company's RUS annual report and all required documentation	
(3018)	If the response is no on line 3014, Is your company audited?	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information (Yes/No)
(3019)	If the response is yes on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission, on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains Èither a copy of their audited financial statement; or (2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications	ormat comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications $\llbracket extcolor{t} floor$
(3020)	Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows	ash Flows
(3021)	Management letter and audit opinion issued by the independent certified public accountant that performed the company's financial audit the response is no on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission, on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2),	ublic accountant that performed the company's financial audit $\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \$
(3022)		
(3023)	Borrowers, Underlying information subjected to a review by an independent certified authorization subjected to a review by an independent certified	
(3024)	profile accountaint. Underlying information subjected to an officer certification. Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Co.	Ish Flows
(3026)	Attach the worksheet listing required information	361495mm3026.pdf
		Nama of Attachad Document litting Boaring Information
		name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

(3000) Rate Of Return Carrier Additional Documentation (Continued)	FCC Form 481
Data Collection Form	OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
	July 2013
<010> Study Area Code 361495	
<015> Study Area Name VALLEY	VALLEY TEL CO - MN

Data Co	Data Collection Form	OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
		July 2013
<010>	<010> Study Area Code	361495
<015>	<015> Study Area Name	VALLEY TEL CO - MN
<020>	<020> Program Year	2016
<030>	<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Tom Campbell
<032>	<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> 6516218511 ext.	6516218511 ext.
<039>	<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> + compel 1 @not crown as a crown	tcamphell@otcnas.com

	882108
(3027) Revenue	
(3028) Operating Expenses	640923
(3029) Net Income	164507
lant In Service(TPIS)	3128627
_	7 1 2002 1
(SOST) TOTAL ASSETS	1556615
(3032) Total Debt	0
(3033) Total Equity	1289864
(3034) Dividends	

Certification - Reporting Carrier	FCC Form 481
Data Collection Form	OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
	July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	361495
<015>	Study Area Name	VALLEY TEL CO - MN
<020>	Program Year	2016
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Tom Campbell
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	6516218511 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	tcampbell@otcpas.com

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF THE REPORTING CARRIER IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTING ON ITS OWN BEHALF:

Certification of Officer as to the Accuracy of the Data Reported for the Annual Reporting for CAF or LI Recipients I certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual reporting requirements for universal service support recipients; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported on this form and in any attachments is accurate. Name of Reporting Carrier: Signature of Authorized Officer: Date Printed name of Authorized Officer: Title or position of Authorized Officer: Telephone number of Authorized Officer: Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier: Filing Due Date for this form: Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

	tion - Agent / Carrier Jection Form	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
<010>	Study Area Code	361495
<015>	Study Area Name	VALLEY TEL CO - MN
<020>	Program Year	2016
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Tom Campbell
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	6516218511 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	tcampbell@otcpas.com

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF AN AGENT IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE CARRIER'S BEHALF:

Certification of Officer to Authorize an Agent to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier I certify that (Name of Agent) Tom Campbell is authorized to submit the information reported on behalf of the reporting carrier. I also certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual data reporting requirements provided to the authorized agent; and, to the best of my knowledge, the reports and data provided to the authorized agent is accurate.					
Name of Authorized Agent: Tom Campbell					
Name of Reporting Carrier: VALLEY TEL CO - MN					
Signature of Authorized Officer: CERTIFIED ONLINE	Date: 06/24/2015				
Printed name of Authorized Officer: Dave Bickett					
Title or position of Authorized Officer: GM/CEO					
Telephone number of Authorized Officer: 2188268311 ext.					
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier: 361495	Filing Due Date for this form: 07/01/2015				
, ,	d by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment itle 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.				

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE AUTHORIZED AGENT:

Certification of Agent Authorized to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier					
I, as agent for the reporting carrier, certify that I am authorized to submit the annual reports for universal service support recipients of	on behalf of the re	porting carrier; I have provided			
the data reported herein based on data provided by the reporting carrier; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reporte	d herein is accurat	е.			
Name of Reporting Carrier: VALLEY TEL CO - MN					
Name of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: Tom Campbell					
Signature of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: CERTIFIED ONLINE Date: 06/24/2015					
Printed name of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: Tom Campbell					
Title or position of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent					
Telephone number of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: 6516218511 ext.					
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier: 361495 Filing Due Date for this form: 07/01/2015					
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.					

Attachments

(700) Pri Data Coll	(700) Price Offerings i Data Collection Form	(700) Price Offerings including Voice Rate Data Data Collection Form	. Data				T 0 5	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013	B Control No. 3060-0819
\$ 010	Study Area Code	- Ode			361495				
<015>	Study Area Name	Name			VALLEY TEL CO	CO - MN			
<020>	Program Year	ar			2016				
<030>	Contact Nar	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	ıld contact regar	Jing this data	Tom Campbell	11			
<032>	Contact Tel	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	ber of person id	entified in data line	e <030> 6516218511 ext	ext.			
<039>	Contact Em	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	ress of person ic	entified in data line		tcampbell@otcpas.com			
<701>		Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date Single State-wide Residential Local Service Charge	ffective Date I Service Charge		1/1/2015				
<703>									
	<a1>></a1>	<a2></a2>	<a3></a3>	 	 	<	 b4>	<	\$
	State	Exchange (ILEC)	SA	Rate Type	Residential Local Service Rate	State Subscriber Line Charge	State Universal Service Fee	Mandatory Extended Area Service Charge	Total per line Rates and Fee
	MN			FR	17.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.5
	SD			FR	17.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.5
Í									

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 Other, No limit on usage allowance When Limit Reached {select} Usage Allowance **Action Taken** FCC Form 481 July 2013 Usage Allowance 666666 666666 666666 666666 666666 666666 666666 666666 666666 666666 -Upload Speed (Mbps) (GB) **Broadband Service** 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 Broadband Service - B Download Speed __((Mbps) 10.0 10.0 2.0 2.0 0.9 4.0 0.9 4.0 8.0 8.0 VALLEY TEL CO - MN tcampbell@otcpas 6516218511 ext. Tom Campbell **Total Rates** and Fees 2016 41.95 54.95 69.95 79.95 42.45 53.45 63.45 88.45 79.4 85.9 \ \ \ Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> <035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> State Regulated Fees <bs/>b2> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 Residential Rate
b1> 41.95 54.95 79.95 42.45 53.45 63.45 88.45 69.95 85.9 79.4 Exchange (ILEC) <a2> (710) Broadband Price Offerings Study Area Name Study Area Code <020> Program Year Data Collection Form State <a1> \mathbb{R} \mathbb{Z} \mathbb{Z} \mathbb{Z} \mathbb{Z} \mathbb{Z} Ø \mathbb{Z} \mathbb{Z} Ø <010> <039> <015> <030> <711>

(800) Operating Companies Data Collection Form			FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 Lily 2013
<010> Study Area Code	361495		
<015> Study Area Name	VALLEY TEL CO - MN	MN	
<020> Program Year	2016		
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Tom Campbell		
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	6516218511 ext.		
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	tcampbell@otcpas.com	.com	
<810> Renorting Carrier Valley Tel Co - MN			
Holding Company			
<813> <a1></a1>		<a2></a2>	<a3></a3>
Affiliates		SAC	Doing Business As Company or Brand Designation
Valley Telephone Company	Ē	361495	
Otter Tail Telcom, LLC			
Otter Com, Inc.			
Vent			702 Communications
	_	-	

SAC: 361495 State: MN

Valley Tel Co - MN

Form 481 Line No. 112 Five Year Service Quality Improvement Plan

ATTACHMENT REDACTED IN ENTIRETY

Page 1 of 4

SAC: 361495 State: MN

Valley Telephone Co - MN

Form 481 Line No 510 Compliance with Service Quality Standards and Consumer Protection

South Dakota:

- 1. Valley Telephone Co MN (Company) will provide service on a timely basis to requesting customers within the Company's designated service area where the Company's network already passes the potential customers premises, and
- 2. The Company will provide service, within a reasonable period of time, if the potential customer is within the Company's designated service area but outside the Company's existing network coverage, if the service can be provided at reasonable cost by:
 - a. Modifying or replacing the requesting customer's equipment.
 - b. Adjusting network or customer facilities.

3. Service Quality Standards

The Company:

- Provides voice grade access to the public switched network.
- Provides flat rated local exchange service with no addition charge to end users.
- Provides access to the emergency services provided by local government or other public safety organization, such as 911 and enhanced 911.
- Provides toll blocking and toll limitation services.
- Advertises the availability of its services and the charges using media of general distribution and on its website.
- Maintains a business office providing customers with access to a customer service representative either in person or via a local telephone call or toll-free telephone number during normal business hours.
- Directs after hour calls to the Company's help desk.
- Directs trouble reports to the on-call technician.
- Tracks all service orders to ensure they are completed in a timely manner.
- Measures its service connection and service interruption performance on a regular basis.
- Trains employees to:
 - Answer all incoming calls promptly.
 - o Respond to all inquiries for information promptly and courteously.
 - Investigate thoroughly all customer complaints.
 - Be knowledgeable about products and service offerings so they can assist the customer with selecting the best service option.
- Has a process for periodic inspection, testing and preventive maintenance of its equipment to permit the rendering of safe, adequate and continuous service at all times.

SAC: 361495 State: MN

Valley Telephone Co - MN

Form 481 Line No. 510 Compliance with Service Quality Standards and Consumer Protection

South Dakota: (Cont'd)

4. Consumer Protection Rules

The Company has established operating procedures designed to facilitate compliance with applicable consumer protection rules which include compliance with the Customer Proprietary Network Information (CPNI) rules. The operating procedures include:

- Appointment of a compliance officer.
- A manual detailing the specific procedures for protecting consumer information.
- Employee training on an annual basis.
- A disciplinary process for improper use of consumer information.

SAC: 361495 State: MN

Valley Telephone Co - MN

Form 481 Line No. 510 Compliance with Service Quality Standards and Consumer Protection

Minnesota:

In addition to the items noted above for South Dakota, as required by MN. Rule "7812.0700 Minnesota General Service Quality Requirements. Subpart 1" the local services provided by Valley Telephone Co - MN are provided under internal company operating procedures and publically available tariffs which are in compliance with applicable Minnesota Public Utility Commission orders and rules including:

7810.0100 DEFINITIONS. 7810.0200 SCOPE. 7810.0300 STATUTORY AUTHORITY.

RECORDS AND REPORTS

7810.0400 RETENTION OF RECORDS.
7810.0500 DATA TO BE FILED WITH THE COMMISSION.
7810.0600 REPORT TO COMMISSION ON SERVICE DISRUPTION.
7810.0900 LOCATION OF RECORDS.

CUSTOMER RELATIONS

7810.1000 INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO CUSTOMER AND PUBLIC. 7810.1100 COMPLAINT PROCEDURES. 7810.1200 RECORD OF COMPLAINT.

CUSTOMER BILLING; DEPOSIT AND GUARANTEE REQUIREMENTS

7810.1400 CUSTOMER BILLING.

7810.1500 DEPOSIT AND GUARANTEE REQUIREMENTS.

7810.1600 DEPOSIT.

7810.1700 GUARANTEE OF PAYMENT.

DISCONNECTION OF SERVICE; SERVICE DELAY

7810.1800 PERMISSIBLE SERVICE DISCONNECTIONS WITH NOTICE.

7810.1900 PERMISSIBLE SERVICE DISCONNECTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE.

7810.2000 NONPERMISSIBLE REASONS TO DISCONNECT SERVICE.

7810.2100 MANNER OF DISCONNECTION.

7810.2200 RECONNECTION OF SERVICE.

7810.2300 NOTICE REQUIREMENTS.

7810.2400 BILL DISPUTES.

7810.2500 ESCROW PAYMENTS.

7810.2600 WAIVING RIGHT TO DISCONNECT; EMERGENCY STATUS.

7810.2800 DELAY IN INITIAL SERVICE OR UPGRADE.

DIRECTORIES

7810.2900 CONTENT OF DIRECTORIES.

7810.3000 DIRECTORY ASSISTANCE.

7810.3100 CHANGES OR ERROR OF LISTED NUMBER.

ENGINEERING

7810.3200 CONSTRUCTION OF TELEPHONE PLANT. 7810.3300 MAINTENANCE OF PLANT AND EQUIPMENT. 7810.3900 EMERGENCY OPERATIONS.

Page 4 of 4

SAC: 361495 State: MN

Valley Telephone Co - MN

Form 481 Line No. 510 Compliance with Service Quality Standards and Consumer Protection

Minnesota: (cont'd)

INSPECTIONS, TESTS, SERVICE REQUIREMENTS

7810.4100 ACCESS TO TEST FACILITIES.
7810.4300 ACCURACY REQUIREMENTS.
7810.4900 ADEQUACY OF SERVICE.
7810.5000 UTILITY OBLIGATIONS.
7810.5100 TELEPHONE OPERATORS.
7810.5200 ANSWERING TIME.

7810.5300 DIAL SERVICE REQUIREMENTS.

7810.5400 INTEROFFICE TRUNKS.

7810.5500 TRANSMISSION REQUIREMENTS.

7810.5800 INTERRUPTIONS OF SERVICE.

7810.5900 CUSTOMER TROUBLE REPORTS.

7810.6000 PROTECTIVE MEASURES.

7810.6100 SAFETY PROGRAM.

SAC: 361495 State: MN

Valley Tel Co - MN

Form 481 Line No. 610 Description of Functionality in Emergency Situations

Valley Tel Co - MN has:

- Established reasonable provisions to meet emergencies resulting from failures of lighting or power service, sudden and prolonged increases in traffic, or from fire, storm, or acts of God including provisions for emergency power that provide:
 - A minimum of 8 hours, plus or minus 15 percent, of battery reserve rated for peak traffic load requirements
 - o A permanently installed power unit in exchanges, or
 - Mobile power units that can be delivered on short notice and which can be readily.
 connected in offices without installed emergency power facilities.
- Informed employees as to the procedures to be followed, including reasonable rerouting of traffic around damaged facilities and the deployment of emergency power, in the event of emergency in order to prevent or mitigate interruption or impairment of telecommunications service.

SAC: 361495 State: MN

Valley Telephone Company

Form 481, Line No. 920, Tribal Government Engagement Obligation

Tribal land within the Reservation and in Valley Telephone's SD exchange is limited to sporadic small rural housing intermixed with non-tribal land housing. Due to this structure, tribal customers are serviced exactly like non-tribal consumers utilizing the same infrastructure

Valley Telephone Company did engage the tribal leadership in 2014 and also attempted to follow up in 2015.





Park Region Telephone PO Box 277 100 Main St. Underwood, MN 56586 218-826-6161

Otter Tail Telcom 230 W Lincoln Fergus Falls, MN 56537 218-998-2000

Valley Telephone PO Box 277 Underwood, MN 56586 800-247-2706

REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

October 15, 2014

Robert Shepherd, Tribal Chairman Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate PO Box 509 100 Veterans Memorial Drive Agency Village, SD 57262-0509

Brenda J. Bellonger, Attorney/Tax Director Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate PO Box 776 Agency Village, SD 57262-0776

Dear Tribal Leaders,

We would like to request the opportunity to meet with you to discuss Valley Telephone's future plans for services and infrastructure that are currently in our planning cycle.

As we begin our budgeting process for 2015, we would love the opportunity to share our plans for continuing to provide advanced services and pursuing our goal of investing in the critical communications infrastructure used to service residents in the area.

If possible, we would like to get some possible meeting dates from you. If this is of interest, please contact me utilizing the following information:

Phone: 218-826-8311 or email dave.bickett@parkregion.com (preferred)

Email is preferred simply because I can usually respond in a more timely manner.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you and hope you have had a wonderful summer.

Sincerely,

Dave Bickett, GM/CEO Valley Telephone Company

The Local Choice.
The Better Choice.
www.parkregion.com

SAC: 361495 State: MN

Valley Tel-Co - MN

Form 481 Line No. 1010 Descriptive document for Voice Services Rate Comparability

Line 1010 – Description of Voice Services Rate Comparability: Provide a detailed description of how your pricing of fixed voice services is no more than two standard deviations above the applicable national average urban rate for voice service, as published annually by the Wireline Competition Bureau, as required in 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(10).

On April 16, 2015 the Wireline Competition Bureau announced results of the Urban Rate Survey for Voice Services as part of FCC Public Notice DA 15-470. Referenced in this public notice are the results required to meet the rate comparability as noted:

"Based on the survey results, the reasonable comparability benchmark for voice services is \$47.48.3

As required Valley Tel-Co – MN hereby certifies that its current fixed voice services for residential subscribers as defined in the USF/ICC Transformation Order is below \$47.48.

³ Id. at 17694, para. 84."

Page 1 of 3

SAC: 361495 State: MN

Valley Telephone Co - MN

Form 481 Line No. 1210 Lifeline Plans Terms and Conditions

Lifeline Terms and Conditions

1. Valley Telephone Co - MN (Company) offers lifeline program-supported service to qualified low-income residential consumers for one telephone line per eligible household. The lifeline program provides discounts to eligible low-income consumers to help them establish and maintain telephone service. Lifeline assistance lowers the cost of basic, monthly local telephone service. Eligible consumers can receive \$9.25 per month in discounts. In addition, the Federal Universal Service Charge is not assessed to consumers participating in Lifeline. Toll Blocking prevents the placement of all long distance calls for which a subscriber would be charged. Toll Blocking is available to eligible consumers at no cost. Also, by choosing the option, consumers are usually not charged a deposit.

Lifeline Program Eligibility Information

Program Based Eligibility

Consumers are eligible for Lifeline if they, one of their dependents or their household participate in one of the following qualifying assistance programs:

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8)

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

Medicaid

National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and receives lunch through the program

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

Lifeline applicant must present documentation demonstrating eligibility either through participation in one of the qualifying federal assistance programs or through income-based means.

Acceptable documentation of program-based eligibility includes: current or prior year's statement of benefits from a qualifying program; notice letter of participation in a qualifying program; program participation documents; or another official document evidencing the consumer's participation in a qualifying program.

Income Based Eligibility

In addition, consumers are eligible for Lifeline if their household income is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines.

2014 Federal Poverty Guidelines – 135%

Household Size	 48 Contiguous States and D.C.
1	\$ 15,755
2	21,236
3	26,717
4	32,198
5	37,679
6	43,160
7	48,641
8	54,122
For Each Additional Person, Add	5,481

Acceptable documentation of income eligibility includes: prior year's state, federal or Tribal tax return; current income statement from an employer or paycheck stub; social security statement of benefits; Veterans Administration statement of benefits; retirement/pension statement of benefits; unemployment/workmen's compensation statement of benefits; federal or Tribal notice of letter participating in General Assistance; or a divorce decree or child support award or other official document containing income information.

SAC: 361495 State: MN

Valley Telephone Co - MN

Form 481 Line No. 1210 Lifeline Plans Terms and Conditions

Lifeline Terms and Conditions (Continued)

Lifeline Program Eligibility Information (Continued)

Recertification of Lifeline Eligibility

Lifeline recipients are required to recertify their eligibility annually. Failure to properly recertify a recipient's continued eligibility for the Lifeline program will result in termination of the Lifeline recipient's monthly Lifeline discount and de-enrollment from the Lifeline Program.

Additional Lifeline Program Information

The Lifeline program is limited to one benefit per household, consisting of either wireline or wireless service. A household is defined, for purposes of the Lifeline Program, as an individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Lifeline is government benefit program, and consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain the benefit can be punished by fine or imprisonment or can be barred from the program.

- 2. The Company's flat rate plans include unlimited local exchange calling including usage to designated nearby local exchange areas. The flat rate plans do not include any toll usage. The rates for any toll usage are determined by the rate plans of the Toll Provider(s) that are selected by lifeline end users.
- 3. The Company has met and will meet the requirements of eligible telecommunications carrier advertising. This includes:
 - a. A full description of available services in the Company's Official telephone directory, including the process to be used by customers to quality for lifeline and link-up service.
 - b. Advertising of the available universal service in media of general circulation in the Company's designated service area. Availability may be advertised in newspapers, company newsletters, company or civic internet sites, bill stuffer, direct mailings, or other means intended to convey availability throughout the designated service area.
- 4. The specific Company terms and conditions for the Company's Lifeline Plans are set forth in pages included in Exhibit 1, attached.

SAC: 361495 State: MN

Valley Telephone Co - MN

Form 481 Line No. 1210 Lifeline Plans Terms and Conditions

Minnesota:

Rates:

The Company's Local service rates that serve as its Lifeline Plans are filed in Compliance with the regulatory requirements of Minn. Rules Ch. 7810 and Minn. Rules pt. 7812.0600.

Lifeline Terms and Conditions:

The Company will adhere to Lifeline Terms and Conditions above as well as Minnesota Administrative Rule "7817.0400 - Eligibility for Telephone Assistance Credits" which states:

Minnesota Administrative Rule 237 Chapter 7817.0400

Subpart 1. Information provided. Each local service provider shall annually mail a notice of the availability of the telephone assistance plan to each residential subscriber in a regular billing. If a subscriber has chosen to receive the regular billing other than through U.S. mail, the local service provider shall send the notice in a regular billing using the delivery method chosen by the subscriber for delivery of the regular billing. The notice must state the following: YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR ASSISTANCE IN PAYING YOUR TELEPHONE BILL IF YOU RECEIVE BENEFITS FROM CERTAIN LOW-INCOME ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS OR MEET CERTAIN INCOME LIMITS. FOR MORE INFORMATION OR AN APPLICATION FORM PLEASE CONTACT

<u>(local service provider)</u>. On request, the local service provider shall mail to a person an application form developed by the commission and the Department of Commerce, and a brochure that describes the telephone assistance plan's eligibility requirements and application process.

Subpart 2. Application process. On completing and signing the application certifying under penalty of perjury that the information provided by the applicant is true and that the statutory criteria for eligibility are satisfied, the applicant must return it to the local service provider for enrollment in the telephone assistance plan. An application may be made by the subscriber, the subscriber's spouse, or a person authorized by the subscriber to act on the subscriber's behalf.

Subpart 4. Eligibility criteria. To be eligible for a telephone assistance credit the applicant must:

- A. be a subscriber who resides in Minnesota or has moved to Minnesota and intends to remain; and
- B. be eligible for the federal Lifeline telephone service discount.

Subpart 7. Applicant and recipient responsibilities. Each applicant and each recipient shall provide current information to the local service provider about permanent changes that affect the applicant's or recipient's eligibility.

Subpart 8. Local service provider responsibilities.

- A. A local service provider shall begin providing telephone assistance credits to an applicant in the earliest possible billing cycle but not later than the second billing cycle following submission of a completed application demonstrating eligibility. If certified, the local service provider shall notify the applicant by, for example, placing telephone assistance credits on the bill.
- B. If an applicant is denied eligibility, the local service provider shall notify the applicant in writing of the reasons for the denial, of the right to appeal, and of the right to reapply.

Exhibit 1

SAC: 361495

State: MN Valley Telephone Co - MN

Form 481 Line No. 1210 Lifeline Plans Terms and Conditions

VALLEY TELEPHONE COMPANY BROWNS VALLEY, MINNESOTA

Section 4
Page 1
Revision 1

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

The rates for Local Exchange Service are subject to the conditions set forth herein and the General Regulations governing provision of service. The General Regulations are set forth in Section 2 of this tariff book.

Local Exchange Service

- a. The Local Exchange Service Rates in this section are for service only and do not include any terminal equipment beyond the point of demarcation.
- b. The rates applicable to Local Exchange Service are composed of a Line Access Rate component plus (where applicable) an Extended Area Service component.
- c. Service Upgrades
 - 1. At the option of the Company, services will be upgraded to business individual line and residence individual line or two party services as facilities for the provision of such services permit.
 - 2. Upgrading of business and residence services may be accomplished on a line-by-line basis at the option of the Company.
 - 3. As an exchange is upgrade, as set forth in 1) above, the rates shown on the appropriate rate schedule will be applied.
- d. Extended Area Service
 - 1. Establishment and discontinuance of EAS will be contingent upon Commission authorization.
 - 2. Extended Are Service rate component.
 - A. EAS is a premium-type service offering made by the Company to certain exchanges, under specific conditions.
 - B. The Extended Area Service rate component, where applicable, is included in the Local Exchange Service Rate.
- e. Taxes
 - 1. Applicable taxes levied by state, county and local taxing authorities are in addition to the rates set forth in this tariff. (See also General Regulations, Section 2.)

VALLEY TELEPHONE COMPANY BROWNS VALLEY, MINNESOTA

Section 4 Page 2 Revision 4

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

Rates

<u>Class of Service</u>	Monthly Rates
BUSINESS:	
One Party – Access	\$ 19.23
PBX Trunk – Access	21.25
Key System Line – Access	21.25
RESIDENCE:	
One Party – Access	17.50 (I)

All rates are billed in advance. Payment for service is due when the statement is rendered.

A gross receipts additive will be billed to the subscribers equal to 4% of the federally imposed subscriber line charge. This additive will be shown on the subscriber's bill as a separate line.

Seasonal service is available for customers requiring less than 12 months of service per year. The rate for seasonal service is determined in accordance with section 5, page 26 of this tariff book.

Vacation rate service is available for customers requiring less than 12 months of service per year. The rate for vacation service is determined in accordance with section 5, page 28 of this tariff book.

Issued: March 28, 2014 Effective: June 1, 2014

VALLEY TELEPHONE COMPANY BROWNS VALLEY, MINNESOTA

Section 4 Page 3

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

Extended Area Service (EAS)

Exchange

EAS to Exchange

None

SAC: 361495 State: MN

Valley Tel Co - MN

Response to Line 3010 – Milestone Certification (47 CFR §54.313(f)(1)(i))

Valley Tel Co - MN hereby certifies that throughout 2014, it took reasonable steps to provide upon reasonable request broadband service at actual speeds of at least 4 Mbps downstream/1 Mbps upstream, and currently, it is taking reasonable steps to provide upon reasonable request actual speeds of at least 10 Mbps downstream/1 Mbps upstream broadband service at with latency suitable for real-time applications, including Voice over Internet Protocol, and usage capacity that is reasonably comparable to comparable offerings in urban areas as determined in an annual survey, and that requests for such service are met within a reasonable amount of time.

SAC: 361495 State: MN

Valley Tel Co - MN

Response to Line 3012 – Progress Report on 5 Year Plan – Community Anchor Institutions (47 CFR

§54.313(f)(1)(ii))

Valley Tel Co - MN has no newly served community anchor institutions that began receiving broadband in the preceding calendar year.

SAC: 361495 State: MN

Valley Tel Co - MN Form 481 Line No. 3026

ATTACHMENT REDACTED IN ENTIRETY